323 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996. If that contingency takes effect, 7-305 of Article – Education as enacted by Section 24 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 11. 18. 19. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section  $5\underline{9}$  of this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003, the effective date of Chapter 302 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002. If the effective date of Chapter 302 is amended, Section  $5\underline{9}$  of this Act shall take effect on the taking effect of Chapter 302.

SECTION 19. 20. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, contingent on funds being included in the 2004 2005 State budget, as enacted by the General Assembly, for transferring responsibility for the educational program at the Charles H. Hickey, Jr. School from the Department of Juvenile Services to the Maryland State Department of Education, Sections 3, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2003 2004. If the funds are not included in the 2005 State budget, Sections 3, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be null and void and of no force and effect.

SECTION 12. 20. 21. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Sections 9, 10, and 11 of this Act, 16, 17, 18, and 19 17, 18, 19, and 20 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

Approved April 22, 2003.

## **CHAPTER 54**

(Senate Bill 4)

AN ACT concerning

## District Court - Small Claim Actions

FOR the purpose of altering the minimum amount in controversy in civil cases over which the District Court of Maryland and the circuit courts have concurrent jurisdiction; altering the maximum amount of a small claim action in the District Court; altering the amount in controversy in a civil action in the District Court in which formal pleadings are prohibited; altering the minimum amount in controversy in civil cases in which appeals from the District Court are required to be heard on the record; exempting from the Bar admission requirement certain members or employees of limited liability companies in certain small claim actions; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to small claim actions in the District Court.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings Section 4–402(d)(1)(i), 4–405, 6–403, and 12–401(f) Annotated Code of Maryland (2002 Replacement Volume)